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OBITUARY.

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Frank N. Meyer, the Agricultural Explorer of China and Turkestan, is dead. The following cablegrams received through the State Department from the American Consul in Nanking contain all the information which we now have about his death - perhaps they are all we shall ever know about the last hours of this remarkable man:

"June 4, 1918.

"Frank Meyer, Department Agriculture, disappeared from a steamer in this consular district en route Hankow to Shanghai, June 2nd."

"June 7, 1918.

"Yours June fifth. Proceeding with Chinese up river to search for Meyer. Steamer captain states Meyer normal but complained of headache. Have telegraphed Legation and requested Swingle come to Nanking to assist in search."

"June 9, 1918.

"Found Meyer's body thirty miles above Wuhu."

Mr. Meyer had endeared himself to all those who came to know him, because of his real interest not only in plants but in the building up of the human race and the work of making the world more beautiful for that race to live in.

It is hard to realize that those facinating letters from dusty inns, Buddhist temples and river steamers will cease. We shall receive no more of the characteristic cloth packages addressed always in his own handwriting and containing carefully packed and carefully labelled packets of seeds or cuttings. Unlike the work of most travelers, whose stories cease with the writing of a book of travel, Frank Meyer's work had a concreteness about it which the making of books can never quite approach; for the things which he brought us are scattered all over this country, and other countries as well, - growing into avenues, orchards, forests, hedgerows, broad cultivated fields and flowering borders, and thousands of men and women own them and appreciate them and some will perhaps make a living out of them.